have been earmarked for anti-smoking campaign. The ill effects of smoking are, however, highlighted in various Health Education Programmes.

(b) No such study has been conducted.

(c) According to ICMR the prevalence of tobacco use among males is 35% and among females 11%. No information is available to indicate that there is an in crease in the number of women smokers in the past few years.

(d) and (e) All State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations, Central Ministries/Departments have been advised to enforce the existing legislation/instruc tions concerning non-smoking in different places of entertainment and public trans port and extend these to other public places.

Government of India have also issued administrative instructions prohibiting smoking in certain public places like hospitals, educational institutions, conference rooms, domestic air flights, A/C chair cars/sleeper coaches, suburban trains, public transport, etc.

Medicines and Operational Instruments in major hospitals in Delhi

1808. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that indoor patients and patients undergoing surgical operations or treatment at emergencies for serious ailments are asked to bring medicines particularly life saving drugs for their treatment and doctors are being asked to bring operational instruments in almost all the major hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to have enough stocks of medicines particularly life saving drugs and operaional instruments in the hospitals of the Capital ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : A large number of drugs including life saving drugs and antibiotics are given free of cost to the patients undergoing surgical operations and emergency treatment. However, at times, due to short supply/non-availability of a particular medicine the patients' relatives purchase these medicines from the market. All Government hospitals are supplying the instruments required for performing operations.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Conference on AIDS in Delhi

1809. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHAN-DRA JICHKAR: Will the Minis.er of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the outcome of the Conference on AIDS which was recently held in Delhi;

(b) how many delegates from how many countries attended it;

(c) what was the total expenditure incurred by the Government of India on this;

(d) what concrete recommendations did the conference make; and

(e) what steps are being taken to implement the recommendations ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) The Conference highlighted the multi-faceted dimensions of the AIDS epidemic and drew pointed attention to the looming dangers in South-East Asian region.

(b) It was attended by a total number of 1349 delegates from 84 countries.

(c) The Government have contributed Rs. 6 lakhs towards meeting a part of an expenditure of the Conference.

(d) The Congress suggested a strong emphasis on Sexually Transmitted Diseases Control Programme, Safety of blood and blood products, awareness generation programmes for prevention of HIV, and establishment of linkages between HIV prevention programme and the Maternal and child Health Programme to prevent the spread of HIV in women and children. It also called for all-out efforts to ensure